

**Afro-American Studies
Librarian Section
Newsletter
Issue #5, Summer 1991**

**Minutes of the AFAS Meeting
ALA Midwinter 1991**

Clarence Chisholm, Chairperson, presided over the Midwinter meeting of AFAS Monday, January 14, 1991 at the Congress Hotel, Chicago.

William Welburn (University of Iowa Libraries) was appointed acting newsletter editor. The new chairperson will appoint an editor in June to serve a 2-year appointment. It is anticipated that the newsletter will be published twice a year. Please submit any information you wish to William Welburn.

Membership Report-Rochelle Ballard AFAS currently has 117 members. A discussion group for special members (public, private, and special librarians) will be formed to allow participation by nonmembers.

Constitution Committee-Michael Walker Michael Walker discussed revisions and cosmetic changes to the Bylaws. Members will vote on changes by mail so the Constitution can be reprinted. New committee members are needed. Anyone interested should contact Michael Walker.

Program Committee.
ACRL Conference-Michael Walker. 1992 ACRL Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, March 25- (continued on Page 2)

**AFAS Programs and Meetings
at ALA This Summer**

Executive Committee, July 1, 9-11AM, Georgia World Congress Center, 255W.

Program: "Information Literacy: Black Families and Literacy," featuring Andrew and Jean Childs Young, July 2, 2-4PM, Georgia World Congress Center, 266W.

Other scheduled programs of interest to AFAS Members

The Anthropology and Sociology Section (ANSS) of ACRL will present a program entitled "Folk Cultures of the Modern South: Documentation of Living Traditions," scheduled for June 30 from 9:30AM - 12:30PM in the Lisbon Room of the Atlanta Hilton. The program is co-sponsored by AFAS. Featured speakers are: Daniel Patterson (The Uses of Folklife Documentary Film, Illustrated with "A Singing Stream: A Black Family Chronicle"), Beverly Patterson (Bridging the Gap: an Automated Indexing Project for Folk Music Recordings), Elizabeth Rauh Bethel (Journals and Voices), and Nancy Martin-Perdue and Charles Perdue (Talk about Trouble! New Deal Documentation of Virginia Culture).

"Women's Studies and Ethnic Diversity: Transforming Completion into Coalition" is the focus of a program on multiculturalism, (continued on Page 3)

**Midwinter Minutes,
(Continued from page 1)**

28. The theme will be "Academic Libraries Achieving Excellence in Higher Education." AFAS will focus on multicultural diversity in Afro-American collections. July 31, 1991 is the deadline for submitting planned programs.

ALA Annual Conference- Clarence Chisholm. Theme for ALA Annual Conference is "Information Literacy." Chisholm has requested the following dates and times: Executive Board Meeting - July 1, 9-11. Program - July 2, 2-4. He is also working to get Andrew Young or his wife to speak. Program will center on how Afro-American information literacy affects the black family.

ALA Annual Conference (1992, San Francisco)- Clarence Chisholm. Working with Vivian Sykes to develop program. Theme will be "Your Right to Know and Whatever Makes it Happen."

First National Conference of African American Librarians- Clarence Chisholm. The Black Caucus/ALA will hold its first conference in Columbus, Ohio, Labor Day Weekend, 1992. Theme will be "Culture Keepers: Enlightening and Empowering Our Communities."

Nomination Committee -
Curtis Kendricks

The following slate of candidates were offered by the Nomination Committee:

Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Doris Clack

Barney Sims

Secretary

Joyce Jelks

Doris Horn

Member at Large

Louella Davis

Elaine Hughes

Old Business

Indexing Project- AFAS members are evaluating commercial indexes to determine the treatment and coverage of Afro-Americans. Such features as terminology, headings subject areas, differences between formats and time periods will be examined. Results will be compiled and possibly published. Committee formed to coordinate the results (Diana Brice, Chair, Karen McDaniel, Leta Hendricks, Doris Clack, and William Welburn). Completed reports should be sent to the Committee.

New Business

Discussion was held on the new term 'multicultural diversity.' What does it mean and which groups does it represent (women, gays, ethnic groups)? Could possibly mean a watering down of funds for Black Studies collections. The definition and effects of multicultural diversity should be examined by the Section.

-- Rochelle Ballard

**ALA In Atlanta, continued
from Page 1**

and resources on women as an issue in higher education. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Director of the Center for Research on Women at Spelman College, is the featured speaker. It is scheduled to be held on July 1, from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, in the Mariott Marquis Hotel - Imperial Ballroom B. and is sponsored by the ACRL Women's Studies Section, AFAS, REFORMA, the SRRT Feminist Task Force, EMIERT, COSWL, the American Indian Library Association, and the Chinese American Library Association.

Diversity Social Hour

Everyone is invited to a Diversity Social Hour (with cash bar) that will be held Friday, June 28th from 5-7 pm, at the Radisson Hotel, Grand Ballroom South. The event is co-sponsored by a number of ALA sections and discussion groups, including AFAS.

Announcements

Betty Gubert, Assistant Chief Librarian/ General Research & Reference, at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the New York Public Library, will retire at the end of May after 21 years of service at the Center. She plans to complete two books on black aviation, one a series of biographical sketches and the other a bibliography. Other plans include setting up a consultation service.

While we are sad to see Ms. Gubert leave her post at the Schomburg, we wish her well and plan to continue to use her expertise. At her request, we have printed her mailing address:

150 W. 96th St.
New York, NY 10025

On another note, the Mary McLeod Bethune Memorial Museum and National Archives for Black Women's History, National Historic Site, is accepting applications for the position of Archivist. A complete position Description is available from:

Personnel Officer
Bethune Museum and Archives
1318 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Attention all AFAS Members

AFAS is interested in collecting more information as a way of using different technologies to communicate with its membership.

Please fill out the following coupon and forward it to:

Rochelle Ballard
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